

**Wilkinsburg Borough
Capital Planning Work Session
Minutes
May 6, 2015**

Call To Order

President McCarthy-Johnson called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal Building, 605 Ross Avenue, Wilkinsburg, PA 15221.

Roll Call

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mr. Shattuck, Mr. Taiani, Ms. Trice, Ms. Macklin, Ms. Grannemann, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Moore and President McCarthy-Johnson. Interim Borough Manager, Amanda Ford and Mayor Thompson were also present. Ms. Garrett – arrived at 6:40 p.m. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by President, McCarthy-Johnson and a moment of silence was observed to remember victims of violent crimes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1) Kate Luxemburg – Discussion regarding her website and

CAPITAL PLANNING

- Discussion regarding Decorative Street Lighting Repairs.
 - Mr. Shattuck requested funding support from the budget to repair the decorative lighting along Wood Street in the amount of \$52, 800.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approving the termination of Sergeant Lawrence Singer effective May 6, 2015.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Grannemann

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

2. Discussion regarding email submitted by Kate Luxemburg on April 17, to a Mr. Todd Winnor.

- President McCarthy-Johnson read a letter that was prepared by Solicitor Witherel to Kate Luxemburg to stop and desist speaking on behalf of Borough Council, or to imply to others that she understands or know the will of Council in any such matters.

There was a consensus by Council in support of the Solicitor's letter and comments to Kate Luxemburg.

3. Discussion regarding support letter for the Coro Center.

There was a consensus from Council to direct the Interim Borough Manager to prepare the letter of support for the Coro Center.

4. Council Committee Reports:

- *Administrative Committee* – Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson – Chair - Met on April 2015 and discussed the upcoming contract renewals and deadlines of the following: (Fire, Police, SEIU and Garbage Waste Collection)
- *Budget/Finance Committee* – Michael Lefebvre – Chair - Met on April 10, 2015 and discussed several projects and financing options for Capital Improvements, Financing a bond for \$3 million - Michael McCaig – Financial Advisor, Street-Sweeper purchase and discussion on real estate and business privilege tax collection cost. EIT Earned Income Taxes.
- *Capital Planning/Economic Development and Revitalization Committee* – Patrick Shattuck – Chair - Betsey Swartz, Library Director presented to the committee renovation plans for Eastridge Library.

Mr. Shattuck requested that Department of Public Works add to task operations.

Motion: Mr. Shattuck

Second: Mr. Taiani

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

- *Civic Sector and Constituent/Business Outreach Committee* – Met on March 11, 2015 and reached out to church groups, activities for children, Police Youth Academy and Adult Police Academy and further discussion on upcoming special events.
 - May 16, 2015 Yard Waste Collection Pick-Up.
 - Vacant House Tour May 9th 11am – 3pm
 - Beautified Wilkinsburg Project (Living Wall on Hunter Street)

- *Hiring Committee* – Met on several evenings to review the various resumes submitted by candidates interested in the Borough Manager’s position. Conducted four (4) interviews on April 29, 2015 one canceled.
 - *Personnel Committee* – No report.
 - *Public Safety Committee* - Update information regarding the Emergency Management Plan. Next meeting May 18th 2015 at 4:00pm
5. Approving Resolution 15-024 Falconhurst Restoration, L.P. Temporary Tax Exemption.

Motion: Ms. Macklin

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1) Francis Butts – 521 Hill Avenue – Comments about an ongoing problem with the children playing in the street and defiant towards motorist passing by. She is concern that someone will get hurt and/or something terrible happening to one of the motorist.
- 2) Harvey Butts – 521 Hill Avenue – Complained about noise at all times of the day and night from nuisance property at 510-512 Hill Avenue (Section-8 Property). He made 12 calls to County 911 for Police assistance.

President McCarthy-Johnson directed the Interim Borough Manager to notify Code Enforcement.

- 3) Jason McCoy – 815 Holland Avenue – Inquired about activities for children to do; and reference the Community Outreach Committee report answered most of his questions he was prepared to speak before Council. (Police Youth Camp, etc)
- 4) Kate Luxemburg – 432 Rebecca Avenue – Pointed out inconsistencies on the Code Enforcement Property Transfer Form. Also, commented on TCVCOG (billing and reporting).

OLD BUSINESS

President McCarthy-Johnson – Indicated that she would like to have one per meeting Authorities, Boards and Commissions on the agenda each meeting until all vacancies have been filled; adding that council members are not to serve on no more than two committees.

- Discussion on Pitt Street Tree-Revitalization Applications
- Discussion regarding TCVCOG and CBDG Grant Funding
- Discussion to prepare RFP to seek Website Developers

- Reminder to all Council Members for donations of Flower Fund for Former Councilwoman Barbara Erving
- Announcement regarding tree planting for Ferguson Park PUCS will help.

NEW BUSINESS

President McCarthy-Johnson – Announced that the Wilkinsburg School District is moving forward to renovations of Kelly School, Turner School and Wilkinsburg High School.

- School District is holding a Public Meeting on May 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. for discussion on the future of the School District.
- Mad Dad's holding an event this summer in Ferguson Park.
- June 18th Farmer's Market season begins.
- Arts in the Parks – On May 30th 2015, Youth Day from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Taiani – Comments on upcoming scheduled events:

- City of Pittsburgh Marathon
- Run Around the Square
- Regent Square Arts Sales

Ms. Moore – Announces the need of volunteers for the Living Wall Project in Hunter Park.

Ms. Garrett – Comments on the support letter for the PHDA, request from Greg Whitted for the 1341 Marlboro Avenue rehab project. Council requested more information about this project and to invite Mr. Whitted to meet with Council and to discuss solid plans of the project.

Mr. Taiani – Comments on a Borough-wide Residential Parking Permit System

- \$20 - \$40 per vehicle
- Additional revenue for borough financial stability
- Implement Pros and Cons for suggestions
- Set-up a committee to explore the concerns of this project.
- Committee Members named – Marc Tianai – Chair, Patrick Shattuck, Michael Lefebvre and Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson

The Entertainment Consortium, Inc. – TEC - Lachele Banks and Robert Johnson – Organization is a 501-C-3, wishes to establish a Pilot Program in Wilkinsburg, approximately 30 children participating currently.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Council went into executive session for personnel and litigation matters.

Council returned from executive session and reconvened at 10:04 p.m. for a vote regarding the settlement of pending litigation.

Motion to accept the settlement offer in pending personnel litigation against the Borough.

Motion: Mr. Taiani

Second: Mr. Shattuck

All voted in favor of the settlement; motion carried 9-0.

Meeting final adjournment at 10:06 p.m.

Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson
President Council